

Category #42:

The September 1, 2006 implementation date of the Law should be extended.

State Response:

The September 1, 2006 effective date of the legislation was set by the legislature, and signed into law by the Governor. As such, OGS cannot change that implementation date. Every school district impacted by the legislation has been contacted and OGS has spoken at the several purchasing conferences. OGS has suggested that schools conduct a thorough inventory of their facilities to determine exactly what cleaning products they currently use and how much inventory they have. In addition schools should establish a team to test a variety of green cleaning products, starting with any Green Seal certified products that are provided by preferred source vendors, and compare their efficacy against their existing products. Information on Best Cleaning Management Practices that schools can institute before the development and distribution of a sample list of approved cleaning products has been provided to school districts.

Frequently Asked Public Comment:

September 1, 2006 Effective Date for Legislation

Equally problematic is the September 1, 2006 effective date. While the law permits schools to deplete their existing cleaning and maintenance supply stocks --districts will have difficulty implementing the new requirements because the environmentally preferred list of products for our use has yet to be posted Proper protocols for maintenance staff and building occupants will also need to be devised. We believe a 2007 implementation date is more reasonable.

(Diane S. Ward, Governmental Relations Representative, NYS School Boards Association)